REMARKS

Amendment to the Specification

The specification is amended to include a reference number that was used in FIG. 2 of the specification as filed but not previously mentioned in the specification. It is the Applicants' position that addition of the reference number to the specification does not constitute new matter because the use of this reference number and the method step to which it refers is supported by the Step 118 as illustrated in FIG. 2.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings because the reference number "218" was included in FIG. 2 but not in the specification. The Applicants believe that the above amendment to the specification overcomes this objection.

The Examiner objected to the drawings because the references numbers 502 and 504 each reference a plurality of items in the figures. The Applicants traverse this objection. The reference number 502 refers to "blanks" and the reference number 504 refers to "drop down menus" in the specification at paragraph 0038. In FIG. 5 there is a plurality of "blanks" and a plurality of "drop down lists." For example, there are two "blanks" to which the Examiner has referred to as "annual revenue" and "money looking for." Because these are both "blanks" and both properly referenced as such, it is the position of the Applicants that the reference numbering in FIG. 5 is correct and no changes are needed.

<center>**Current Amendments**</center>

Claims 1-34 are currently pending in this application. Claim 16 is amended to correct a spelling error.

<center>**Discussion of Previous Amendments**</center>

Claims 1-3, 6-11, 13, 15-21, 23, 25, 27, 30, and 32-34 were *previously* amended in the Response to Office Action filed December 22, 2004 (Amendment A). The Examiner objected to the Response to Office Action filed because there were "no arguments toward the prior art with respect to the amended claims." These amendments are, therefore, discussed herein. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the opportunity to address these objections.

<center>**Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 20, 21, 27 and 34**</center>

Amendments to Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 20, 21, 27 and 34 include addition of limitations relating to navigation history of the user. Support for these amendment can be found, for example, in paragraphs 0009 and 0026 of the specification as filed.

Regarding Claim 1:

Claim 1 was amended to recite,

1. A computer implemented method for maintaining information provided by a user, comprising:
encoding session information in a first web page, wherein <u>the session information includes a navigation history of the user and</u> at least a portion of the session information is not visible to the user;
sending the first web page <u>including the encoded session information</u> over a network to a web browser of the user;
receiving updated session information from the user via the network <u>responsive to the first web page;</u>
decoding the updated session information; and
using the decoded session information to create a second web page.

The Applicants have reviewed the art cited by the Examiner (<u>Iyengar</u> 5,961,601), and are unable to identify any teaching that a "*navigation history of the user*" is included as part of "*the*

session information." Rather, the focus of Iyengar is to preserve *current* state information and not information about past states. For at least this reason, the Applicants believe that Claim 1 and those claims that depend therefrom are allowable. Further, Claims 20 and 34 include amendments similar to that of Claim 1. Therefore, for at least this reason, the Applicants believes that Claims 20 and 34, and those claims that depend therefrom are also allowable.

Regarding Claim 3:

Claim 3 was amended to recite, "*wherein the encoded session information including a navigation history of the user is placed in a hidden form field.*" The Applicants believe that Claim 3 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1 from which it depends. Further, as amended, Claim 3 recites that "*navigation history of the user is placed in a hidden form field.*" These limitations do not appear to be taught in the cited art. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 3 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 7:

Claim 7 was amended to recite, "*[T]he computer implemented method of claim 1, further comprising using the navigation history of the user to resolve a configuration conflict.*" The Applicants believe that Claim 7 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1 from which it depends. Further, as amended, Claim 7 recites "*using the navigation history of the user to resolve a configuration conflict.*" These limitations do not appear to be taught in the cited art. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 7 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 10:

Claim 10 was amended to recite, "*[T]he computer implemented method of claim 9, further comprising using the navigation history of the user to generate an explanation of the configuration conflict for inclusion in the second web page.*" The Applicants believe that Claim

10 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1 from which it depends. Further, as amended, Claim 10 recites *"using the navigation history of the user to generate an explanation of the configuration conflict."* These limitations do not appear to be taught in the cited art. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 10 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 21:

Claim 21 was amended to recite, *"[T]he computer program product of claim 20, wherein creation of the second web page is responsive to the navigation history."* The Applicants believe that Claim 21 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1, as well as Claim 20 from which it depends. Further, as amended, Claim 21 recites *"creation of the second web page is responsive to the navigation history."* These limitations do not appear to be taught in the cited art. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 21 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 27:

Claim 27 was amended to recite, *"[T]he computer program product of claim 26, wherein information encoded into the second web page includes history of a navigation from the first web page to the second web page."* The Applicants believe that Claim 27 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1, as well as Claims 20 and 26 from which it depends.

Claims 11, 15, 16, 30, 32, and 33

Claims 11, 15, 16, 30, 32, and 33 were each amended to include limitations relating to *"user interface version."* The Applicants are unable to find any such teaching in the art cited by the Examiner and, therefore, believe that for at least this reason Claims 11, 15, 16, 30, 32, and 33

are allowable. Support for these limitations can be found, for example, at paragraph 0031 of the application as filed.

Regarding Claim 11:

Claim 11 was amended to recite,

11. A computer implemented method for configuring a configurable product for a user, comprising:
encoding session information in a first web page, wherein <u>the session information</u>
<u>*includes a first user interface version and*</u> *at least a portion of the*
session information is not visible to the user;
sending the first web page over a network to a web browser of a user;
receiving updated session information from the user via the network;
decoding the updated session information; and
using the decoded session information to create a second web page<u> responsive to the first</u>
<u>*user interface version.*</u>

The Applicants are unable to find any teaching within the cited art that *"the session information includes a first user interface version"* or *"using the decoded session information to create a second web page responsive to the first user interface version."* For at least these reasons the Applicants believe that Claim 11, and those claims that depend therefrom are allowable.

Regarding Claim 15:

Claim 15 was amended to recite,

15. The computer implemented method of claim 11,<u> further including encoding further</u>
<u>*session information in a third web page for delivery to a second user, the further session*</u>
<u>*information including a second user interface version.*</u>

The Applicants believe that Claim 15 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed with respect to Claim 11 from which it depends. Further, Claim 15 recites *"session information including a <u>second</u> user interface version"* and *"delivery to a <u>second</u> user."* These limitations do not appear to be taught in the art cited by the Examiner. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 15 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 16:

Claim 16 is amended to recite,

16. (Currently Amended) The computer implemented method of claim 15, using the further session information to create a fourth web page responsive to the second user interface version.

Claim 16 is currently amended to correct a spelling error.

The Applicants believe that Claim 16 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed with respect to Claims 11 and 15 from which it depends. Further, Claim 16 recites *"using the further session information to create a fourth web page."* These limitations do not appear to be taught in the art cited by the Examiner. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 16 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 30:

Claim 30 was amended to recite,

30. A computer implemented method for configuring a configurable product for a user, comprising:
receiving at an application server session information from the user via a network, the session information including a first user interface version;
determining at the application server a configuration result based on the session information;
encoding the configuration result and the session information in a first web page;
sending the first web page via the network to a web browser of the user;
deleting the session information and configuration result from the application server;
receiving at the application server updated session information from the user via the network;
determining at the application server an updated configuration result based on the updated session information;
encoding the updated configuration result and updated session information in a second web page, the second web page being responsive to the first user interface version;
sending the second web page via the network to the web browser of the user; and
deleting the updated session information and updated configuration result from the application server.

The Applicants believe that Claim 30, and those claims that depend therefrom, are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 11.

Regarding Claim 32:

Claim 32 was amended to recite,

32. The computer implemented method of claim 30, further including maintaining a second session with a second user based on a second user interface version.

The Applicants believe that Claim 32 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 30 from which it depends. Further Claim 32 recites *"maintaining a second session with a second user based on a second user interface version."* These limitations do not appear to be taught in the art cited by the Examiner. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 32 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 33:

The Applicants believe that Claim 33 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 30 from which it depends.

Claims 7, 9, 10, 18 and 19

Claims 7, 9, 10 18 and 19 were amended to include limitations relating to conflicts. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, at paragraph 0036 of the specification as filed.

Regarding Claim 7:

The Applicants believe that Claim 7 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above, relating to *"navigation history"* on page 12. The Applicants believe that Claim 7 is allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1, from which it depends. Further, Claim 7 recites *"using the navigation history of the user to resolve a configuration conflict."* The limitations regarding use of the *"navigation history"* to *"resolve a configuration conflict"* do not appear to be taught in the art cited by the Examiner. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 7 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 9:

The Applicants believe that Claim 9 is allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1, from which it depends. Further, Claim 9 recites *"using the updated session information to identify a configuration conflict."* The limitations regarding use of the *"session information"* to *"identify a configuration conflict"* do not appear to be taught in the art cited by the Examiner. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 9 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 10:

The Applicants believe that Claim 10 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above, relating to *"navigation history"* and Claim 10, on page 12. The Applicants, further, believe that Claim 10 is allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to Claims 1 and 9, from which is depends. Further, Claim 10 recites *"using the navigation history of the user to generate an explanation of the configuration conflict."* The limitations regarding use of the *"navigation history of the user"* to *"generate an explanation of the configuration conflict"* do not appear to be taught in the art cited by the Examiner. For at least these reasons, the Applicants believe that Claim 10 is allowable.

Regarding Claim 18:

The Applicants believe that Claim 18 is allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 11, from which it depends. Further, Claim 18 is believed to be allowable for the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 9.

Regarding Claim 19:

The Applicants believe that Claim 19 is allowable for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to Claims 11 and 18, from which it depends. Further, Claim 18 is believed to be allowable for the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 7.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the entry of the above amendments and submit that, as amended, all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Thus, the claims of the present application are believed to be allowable based on Applicants' above amendments and remarks. Upon entry of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the issuance of a Notice of Allowability.
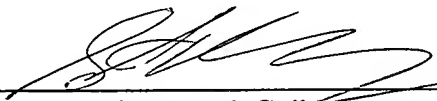
If the Examiner has any questions or would like to discuss this case, he is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 9, 2005   By:

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